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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1283
INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 5401
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 0935
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 8176
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 2157
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RUEHLJ/AMEMBASSY LJUBLJANA PRIORITY 0010
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1580
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY 0944
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 4940
RUEHN/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0969
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 7517
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0824
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0976
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 4132
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 0835
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 0260
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 2095
RUEHCHI/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI PRIORITY 4632
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1941
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RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 000015

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TAGS: EPET PHUM BM TH

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR PRESSES THAI MFA ON BURMA ENERGY

REF: 07 STATE 169643

Classified By: Ambassador Eric G. John, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

(C) During a January 2 courtesy call on Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary Virasakdi, the Ambassador raised reftel points regarding Thailand's energy relationship with Burma. The Ambassador also noted that the U.S. understood that Thailand, as a neighbor of Burma, had strategic and economic concerns that played a major role in the relationship. That said, the Ambassador noted, Washington hoped that the incoming, democratically-elected Thai government could increase the public rhetoric calling for democracy and greater respect for human rights in Burma, as well as reexamine its economic relationship with the regime. Virasakdi said he understood the U.S. position and would share the Ambassador's comments with the incoming Foreign Minister, whoever that turned out to be. "Point taken," Virasakdi concluded.

JOHN